Vol. V No. 1 Summer 1997

SHORELINE

RESEARCH CENTER FOR DELMARVA HISTORY AND CULTURE
AT SALISBURY STATE UNIVERSITY

"... Recognizing the vital role that we play in the cultural life of the Eastern Shore, we will challenge ourselves to seek new opportunities to bring together arts and cultural resources both within and outside of our community in order to enrich the life of the region and of our campus."
- President William C. Merwin

DIRECTORS WORK ON STRATEGIC PLAN
Planning Committee Meets

On 19 June 1997 the Planning Committee of the Board of Directors for the Research Center conducted its initial meeting under the able supervision of chairperson E. Niel Carey of Ellicott City. Committee members are Mr. Carey, Chairman of the Board George "Buzz" Gering, Jr., Katherine Washburn, Ray Thompson, Miles Barnes, Bert Thornton, Jane Bunting, Polly Stewart, Jeff Pilchard, Greg Ference and Brooke Tompkins. Ex officio members of the committee are Ronald Dotterer, Dean of the Fulton School of Liberal Arts, Mary Willis of the SSU Foundation, and Becky Miller, Director of the Research Center. Also attending the meeting was Dr. Karin Johnson from the President's office.

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Through the efforts of this committee, the Research Center will have a comprehensive strategic plan which will set out our vision, our goals and the financial resources needed to accomplish the goals.

The Planning Committee will present its draft of the Strategic Plan to the entire Board at its Fall meeting on 15 October.

National Merit Scholar Interns at Center

We are fortunate indeed to have Daniel Richardson, Jr. employed this summer at the Research Center. Dan, the son of Daniel, Sr. and Lillie Richardson of Delmar, is a junior at SSU, with a double major in history and philosophy. He recently was named a National Merit Scholar. We have found--to our great delight---there is nothing this eighteen-year- old cannot do. He has been a tremendous help in every aspect of Center work and we are pleased and proud to employ him.

Dan will continue to work in the Center during the academic year for ten hours per week. We're already planning for Dan to present the Research Center introduction lectures to the U.S. History 201 classes in the Fall.

Archives Corner

Preserve Your Photographs

One doesn't have to have formal training as an archivist or in photographic preservation to practice a few tips about safely storing photographs. Often, the Center is asked for photo preservation tips. We use professional archival materials but here are some things you can practice at home which are easy to remember and are inexpensive.

Don't:

- use self-adhesive or "magnetic" photo albums. The adhesive will eventually damage the photos as well as cause them to adhere to the pages.
- use black paper pages. This kind of paper is generally very acidic and will damage your photographs.
- mount photos so the images presss against each other with no barrier between them. This may cause the inks on the two prints to blend, i.e., "image transfer".
- use polyvinyl chloride (PVC) holders. This plastic produces hydrochloric acid as it deteriorates, which will damage your photos. (Instead, look for polypropylene and polyethylene which are both chemically stable.)
- use over-lighted areas. Do not allow photos to be directly exposed to fluorescent light or sunlight for long periods of time. The ultra-violet rays cause photos to fade and become brittle.
- use wooden file cabinets, the attic or the basement for storage.

Proactive things to do are:

- Use chemically stable plastic sheets with pockets for each individual print or slide and store in a three ring binder.
- Keep your collection in a dark area with moderate temperature (not above 70 degrees) and humidity (lower than 50%).
- Store in a metal cabinet.

Colonial America Class Studies at Center

Barry Neville, a history instructor at Eastern Shore Community College in Melfa, Virginia and also at SSU, is teaching Colonial America in summer session at SSU. Mr. Neville's students have used the Research Center extensively and we expect some interesting papers as a result.

Northampton County Bible Records Acquired

Board member **Jean Mihalyka** of Northampton County compiled fourteen volumes of Bible records of Northampton County and Accomack County, Virginia. Mrs. Mihalyka graciously agreed to allow the Research Center to copy those records. Board member **B. Miles Barnes** of the Eastern Shore Library in Accomac has allowed board member **Marianne Scarborough**, who resides in Accomack County, to borrow the volumes a few at a time to deliver to the Center for copying. Mrs. Scarborough has spent four entire days standing over a hot photocopier! Many thanks to these dedicated board members for all of their assistance.

Maryland History Day Workshop To Be Held At Research Center

On 14 August, a Maryland Day Workshop will be held at the Research Center from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for public school educators.

History Day is a state-wide activity and is held in March of each year. For many years there has been no official celebration on the Eastern Shore.

Bart's Brigade Helps

This is not the first time members of SSU's Salisbury Rugby Team have come to the rescue at the Research Center. The Salisbury Rugby Team, coached by the History Department's Dr. Bart R. Talbert, is responsible in large part for picking up, delivering and rearranging file cabinets and bookcases for the Research Center. This was no small task. This time, the men included Dan Hodges, Cliff Cool and David Johnson, as well as Dr. Talbert. David Johnson has helped several times. You'll hear more about him later as we hope he will be one of our graduate student assistants for the coming academic year.

We are indebted to Bart and the Salisbury Rugby Team for their help.

Bits of History

From the Court records of 13 November 1683, the Commissioners, i.e., His Lordship's Justices in Somerset County, Maryland were:

Col. William Colebourn, Capt Henry Smith, Mr. William Brereton, Mr. Thomas Newbold, Major Ambrose London

The Grand Jury of Enquest :

Capt. Wm Colebourne, foreman,

Stephen Coston, Donass Handansen, Daniell Hast, Jeremiah Hook, Robert Catlin Senr, Thomas Shanck, Robert Johnson, Stephen Horsey, George Downes, Samll Jackson, William Winslowe, John Browne, Jon Parker

Richard Jefferson, Robert Willson, Nehemiah Covington, John Moore ffreeman, Matthew Dorman, John Harris, Henry Hudson, Thomas Cottingham

On 6 February 1683/4 the commissioners present, viz: Capt. Henry Smith, Mr. James Dashiell, Mr. William Brereton, and Mr. William Jones, set the **Rates of Liquors** assessed by the Court vendable by Innholders for this insueing year vitz besides what is mentioned by act of assembly as followeth all wine p gallon sixty pounds of tobacco

burnt Rum p gallon one hundred & twenty pounds of tobacco

Raw Rum p gallon one hundred pounds of tobacco

Eassnow wine p gallon one hundred pounds of tobacco

Madera wine p gallon eighty pounds of tobacco

Clarrett wyne p gallon sixty pounds of tobacco

Brandewyne p gallon one hundred & twenty pounds of tobacco

Syder & Shinge p gallon twenty five pounds of tobacco

Rum drink p gallon twenty five pounds of tobacco

Perry p gallon twenty five pounds of tobacco

shuger p lb ten pounds of tobacco

(L2:1, 27)

NUTTER'S NECK
on the Nanticoke River

Wicomico County, Maryland
An Historical & Archeological Reconnaissance

By David G. Nutter, AICP
Rochester, New York

Several of us who are descendants of Christopher Nutter (1637/40 - 1702/3), an Eastern Shore Indian Interpreter and planter of the 17th century, are exploring Nutter's Neck on the west side of Wicomico County. Nutter's Neck is a 5 square mile neck of land bounded by the Nanticoke River, Quantico, Rewastico and Manumsco Creeks, and lands connecting with the nearby historic hamlet of Quantico. Our goal is to combine genealogical, land record, site reconnaissance and archeological research to understand this early American homesite and the colonial and Revolutionary Era experience of our family. We have thus far been successful in making discoveries in all these areas. Our approach is based on reaching out to experts after doing our own research, coordinating the different areas of interest and relying heavily on original documents and site observations. The Nutters occupied Nutter's Neck from 1675 until about 1812, by then having mainly moved to Sussex County, Delaware and west to West Virginia and Kentucky. Christopher was of upwardly mobile yeoman-class origins in England, most likely from Northeast Lancashire around Pendle Hill, and the Nutters were probably among the Norse emigrants to the Danelaw in the 10th Century. In Old Somerset County, Christopher married Mary Dorman, and the family intermarried with the Taylors, Handys, Dashiells and others. Their son Matthew married Anne, daughter of Old Somerset county's leading Anglican minister, the Rev. John Huett, in the early 18th century, resulting in the repeated use of "Huett" as a given name over many generations in the Nutter family. Christopher assisted Col. William Stevens and the Maryland proprietary and provincial governments by serving as Interpreter with the Nanticoke Indians, among whom he appears to have lived and traded extensively during the 1660's when he moved North from Virginia's Eastern Shore. He and his descendants became substantial planters and traders at Nutter's Neck, using the waterways for transport.

We made a careful reconnaissance of Nutter's Neck in April and May of this year. Our team consists of me, Emalu Myer Simpson and Jeffrey Hatfield, with help from many Eastern Shore experts. I am a professional urban and town planner with an interest in American and English history. Emalu Simpson is a highly skilled genealogical researcher from Cannon, DE, and has been looking into the early Maryland and Delaware generations of the Nutter families in great depth. Jeff Hatfield, of Millsboro, DE, has been doing an in-depth exploration of Nutter's Neck. We have the added resource of a national Nutter Family Discussion Group and its Homepage on the Internet, located at: http://members.aol.com/NutterWV/index.htm. At Nutter's Neck, we talked with property owners, previous residents, farmers and hunters about old locations and ruins. We made a fly-over in a plane rented from the Salisbury-Wicomico Airport, noting several old house and landing sites on the basis of soil discoloration. We made a boat tour along Quantico Creek and a walking tour of key Nutter Neck sites, discovering several artifacts lying on plowed fields. With a larger group of Nutter family researchers, we met at the 1733 Old Green Hill Church, next to the site of the Rev. John Huett's 17th century log church, with Richard Cooper, an eminent Salisbury surveyor and local historian.

Extensive photography was made and locational notes were compiled on a USGS satellite photo basemap at 1"=1,000' scale. We have identified five historical plantation and house sites on the Neck based on visible ruins and the study of old maps and aerial photographs. We have now transcribed 17th, 18th and 19th Century patents, deeds, wills and inventories which are rich in geographical references. Our goal is to portray our family's early colonial life on Nutter's Neck in a vivid way, through text and illustration. Our preliminary report can be viewed on the Nutter Family WWW Page mentioned above, or at the Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury State University. We are grateful for the outstanding help we are receiving from the Research Center for Delmarva History & Culture, the Lower Delmarva Genealogical Society, the Maryland Historical Trust and from many experts and friends on the Eastern Shore. We would like to speak with anyone with knowledge of the Nutter family, Nutter's Neck or early life in the Quantico area. I can be reached at 240 Allens Creek Road, Rochester, NY, 14618, tel (716) 271-7940, or via e-mail at dnutter@aol.com.

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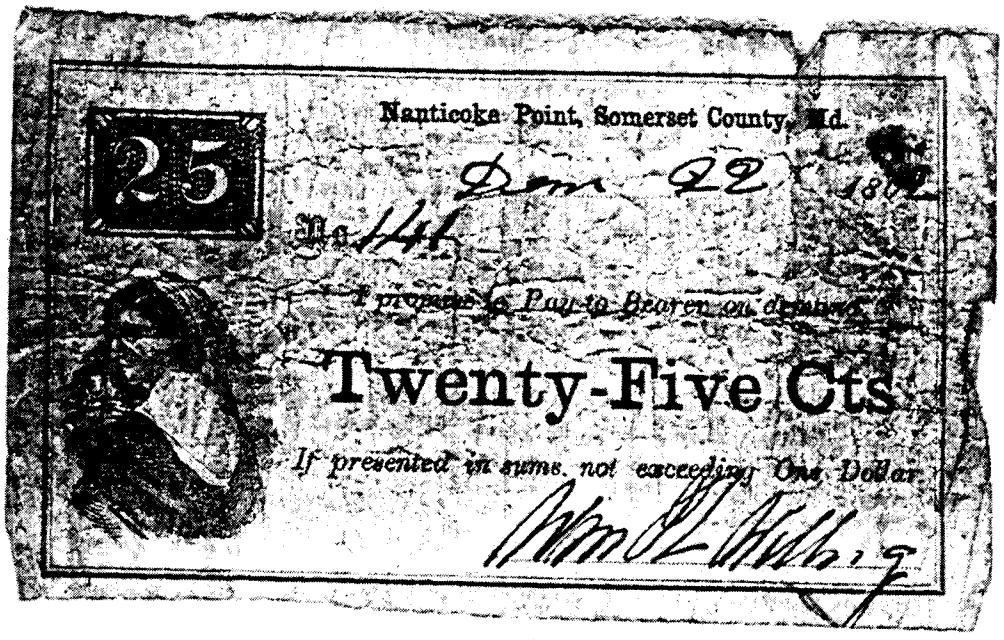
Location: Power Professional Building
Wayne & Milford Streets



Unidentified Issuer, 1862 25 Cent Note from now Wicomico County original found in the Center's John E. Jacob Collection